

# SAN JUAN RIVER

## NEW MEXICO

**Project Name:** San Juan River Habitat Restoration

**Project Type:**

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)

**Project Description:** The San Juan River is home to the endangered Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback sucker. The San Juan Recovery Program assists in recovery of endangered species for over 300 water development projects in Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico. In addition, actions taken under this program will provide benefits to other native fishes in the San Juan Basin and prevent them from becoming endangered in the future.

Recovery actions involve restoring and managing stream flows and habitat, boosting wild populations with hatchery-raised endangered fish, and reducing negative



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interactions with non-native fish species. For this project, bulldozers and excavators were used to construct secondary channels and backwaters and remove non-native vegetation.

While species recovery and water development are the primary benefits of these recovery activities, in-stream flow protection and habitat restoration will also likely result in healthier

riverine and riparian environments in national parks, on tribal lands, and on other public and private lands enjoyed by outdoor recreationists and nature enthusiasts.

**Lead Federal Agencies:**

- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Non-Federal Partners:**

- Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Navajo Nation
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe
- Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe
- State of Colorado
- State of New Mexico

**Outcomes for 2012:**

- Restore 6.5 miles of secondary channels and 6 acres of backwater habitats
- Remove non-native vegetation (primarily Russian Olive) from more than 10 riparian acres